

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 00458 180956Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 /085 W

-----181037Z 076856/12

P R 180909Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1588

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 0458

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP KN KS BY

SUBJ: ROK/BURUNDI RELATIONS AND APPROPRIATE U.S. ROLE
IN RECOMMENDING AID PROJECTS

REF: (A) STATE 313489, (B) BUJUMBURA 0039,

1. ROK MOFA MIDDLE EAST - AFRICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR
RO YONG CH'AN (LOW YOUNG CHAN) MENTIONED TO EMBOFFS JANUARY
17 THAT ROK EMBASSY-KINSHASA REPORTED THAT IT FORESEES "NO
POSSIBLE CHANGE" IN ROK-BURUNDI RELATIONS. ROK EMBASSY-BRUSSELS
HAS ALSO REPORTED THAT BELGIAN MOFA OFFICIALS ADVISE THAT IT
IS "TOO EARLY" FOR SEOUL TO APPROACH BUJUMBURA BECAUSE
BURUNDI IS LOOKING FOR AGREEMENTS WITH TANZANIA CONCERNING
OVERLAND TRANSPORTATION TO SEAPORTS, AND AN OPENING TO SEOUL
AT THIS TIME WOULD BE NOT HELPFUL IN THIS REGARD.

2. EMBOFFS DID NOT BROACH SUBJECT OF POSSIBLE TACTICAL
ROK AID TO BURUNDI WITH RO AS HE BROUGHT IT UP HIMSELF,
INSTANTLY DISMISSING THE NOTION WITH THE GOOD-NATURED
REMARK: "THE U.S. SHOULD GIVE AID TO THOSE COUNTRIES"

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 00458 180956Z

(IMPLYING THAT ROK WON'T).

3. QUITE APART FROM ABOVE CONVERSATION IT IS CLEAR FROM
NUMEROUS CONVERSATIONS WE HAVE HAD WITH ROKG OFFICIALS
THAT ROKG IS NOT GOING TO USE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO OPEN
UP POLITICAL OPPORTUNITIES IN AFRICA UNLESS PROSPECTS FOR
SUCCESS ARE REASONABLY BRIGHT. EXAMPLES WE HAVE HAD RECENTLY

OF ROK GENEROSITY (MAURITANIA, SUDAN, BAHRAIN) INDICATE THAT ROK ATTACHED CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO DEMONSTRATIONS OF SINCERITY FROM POTENTIAL AID RECIPIENTS. MAURITANIA WAS HELPFUL IN NAC, SUDAN HAS PERMITTED ROK CONSULAR PRESENCE, BAHRAIN HAS AUTHORIZED ROK EMBASSY IN MANAMA. IN RETURN ROKG HAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO JOINT FISHERIES VENTURE IN MAURITANIA, IS GIVING

FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO 15 MILLION DOLLAR OAU CONFERENCE HOUSING COMPLEX IN KHARTOUM, AND HAS CONSTRUCTED SHIPYARD IN BAHRAIN. IN THE CASE OF EGYPT, YAR AND NOW BURUNDI, ON THE OTHER HAND, ROKG HAS BEEN RELUCTANT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS FOR AID, VIEWING THESE GOVERNMENTS AS STILL CLOSELY TIED TO NORTH KOREA AND UNWILLING TO MAKE CLEAR GESTURE OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO ROKG.

4. POINT WE WISH TO MAKE HERE IS THAT ROKS HAVE RATIONAL BASIS IN THEIR OWN VIEW FOR DECIDING ON AFRICAN AID QUESTIONS. THOSE AFRICAN OR MIDDLE EASTERN GOVERNMENTS WHICH ARE WILLING TO MAKE A FRIENDLY OVERTURE TOWARD ROKG, LIKE SUDAN, WILL PROBABLY ELICIT FAVORABLE RESPONSE. WITH OTHERS, ROKG SEEMS WILLING TO BIDE ITS TIME WITH EXPECTATION THAT ROK REPUTATION FOR AIDING ITS FRIENDS WILL WIN WIDER SUPPORT IN LONG RUN. GIVEN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE BELIEVE THAT WHERE WE CAN BE OF REAL ASSISTANCE IN PROVIDING ROKS INFORMATION THEY DO NOT OTHERWISE HAVE ABOUT AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS WE CAN USEFULLY DO SO. AS A GENERAL RULE HOWEVER, IT DOES NOT SEEM THAT AT THIS STAGE IN ROK DEVELOPMENT WE SHOULD INTERPOSE OR EVEN SUGGEST JUDGEMENTS REGARDING AID UNLESS THEY ARE REQUESTED, OR THERE IS AN OVERRIDING US INTEREST IN DOING SO.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SEOUL 00458 180956Z

SNEIDER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SEOUL00458
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770018-0235
Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770141/aaaabjsf.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d97147d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 313489, 77 BUJUMBURA 39
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3571177
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROK/BURUNDI RELATIONS AND APPROPRIATE U.S. ROLE IN RECOMMENDING AID PROJECTS
TAGS: PDIP, KN, KS, BY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d97147d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009